

Comprehensive Plan Community Engagement Ward 5 Meeting Summary

Overview

On Saturday, November 23, the Office of Planning (OP) hosted its sixth of eight community meetings planned for the fall of 2019, coordinated in partnership with LINK Strategic Partners (LINK). The purpose of this series of meetings is to present an overview on the Draft Comprehensive Plan Update, including the major themes and any area elements specific to the meeting location. The meetings also intend to share an overview of the community engagement process to date and close the loop on feedback collected from District stakeholders thus far. The central question posed to attendees during the discussion period following an overview presentation is, “What would you like OP to share with your Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC)?”

Location and Attendance

The meeting took place at Luke C. Moore High School, located in the Brookland neighborhood within Ward 5. The event was held in the auditorium, where a presentation was shared with attendees, as well as adjacent hallway space which accommodated five Gallery Walk stations. Representatives from the DC Census and the Department of Housing and Community Development were also tabling on site. The event sign-in sheet registered 65 attendees. Of those 65, one identified as a resident of ANC 5A, ten identified as residents of ANC 5B, three identified as residents of ANC 5C, one identified as a resident of ANC 5D, four identified as residents of ANC 5E, one identified as a resident of Ward 5, and one identified as a resident of Ward 4. The other registered attendees did not identify their ANC or Ward of residence.

Run of Show

ANC 5A Chairperson Ronnie Edwards provided greetings to attendees and demonstrated a depth of understanding of the Comprehensive Plan and a commitment to facilitate feedback from constituents. LINK Managing Director Josh Lasky acknowledged representatives of the Executive Office of the Mayor, staff from DC Councilmembers’ offices, and additional ANC Commissioners in attendance. OP Director Andrew Trueblood provided welcome remarks and introduced OP Deputy Director Anita Cozart, who presented a thorough update on the Comprehensive Plan. LINK Managing Director Josh Lasky facilitated a 10-minute question and answer (Q&A) session and directed attendees to join OP and LINK staff for discussion at the Gallery Walk stations.



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Major Themes and Key Takeaways from Feedback

- Many attendees voiced a preference for more affordable housing and a diversification of the types of housing available in Ward 5.
- Several attendees shared their interest in increased density within neighborhoods of Ward 5, specifically around existing transit hubs and retail corridors.
- A number of attendees had questions about the amendment process and public review period, seeking clarity on how they could best provide feedback in the coming months.
- Multiple attendees expressed a desire for more age-friendly measures to ensure that areas of Ward 5 are livable, walkable, and accessible at all age and ability levels.

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